IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the specification on page 6, line 13, beginning after the title "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION", and extending through page 8, line 21 ending with the line "thickness direction is set to nz." Please replace it with the following summary of the invention.

The invention relates to an elliptical polarizing plate having a polarizer, a first optical anisotropic layer having a positive refractive index anisotropy, and an optical axis of anisotropy which is tilted, and a second optical anisotropic layer having a negative refractive index anisotropy which is tilted. Preferably, the layers are laminated in the forgoing order, the first optical layer is a rod-like liquid crystal and the second layer is a discotic liquid crystal, and the optical axis of the second layer is orthogonal to the first layer.

The invention is also provided wherein the elliptical polarizing plate is included in a liquid crystal display which has a wide viewing angle, and can optionally include the polarizing plate on one side of the liquid crystal, and another optical compensation layer on the opposite side of the liquid crystal cell. The other optical compensation layer has a refractive index of $nx > ny = nz$, where the refractive indexes in two directions within the plane is set to nx and ny, and the refractive index in the thickness direction is set to nz. This liquid crystal display has a sufficient display contrast in a viewing angle direction in all azimuth and displays only a small change in color from the front when the viewing angle is changed. This liquid crystal display is realized using an asymmetrical configuration in which the liquid crystal cell has an optical anisotropic layer on a first side and an optical anisotropic layer having different characteristics on the other side.